

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Read the text carefully and do the activities.

# ARUBA



Crystalline beaches and friendly people are just a couple of reasons for going to one of the friendliest, attractive and fun places in the world: a paradise called Aruba.

Aruba is a small island located in the Caribbean Sea, near Venezuelan coasts. The island has a population of 103,000 inhabitants and its currency is the Aruban Florin. The island has an extension of only 193km<sup>2</sup>, however, that is enough to bring together the most wonderful sights you can find in one place. White sand beaches, deserts and caves make this island a must-visit spot.

Aruba was discovered by the Spaniards in 1499. They established their colonies on a land that was already inhabited by the Arawak Indians. Later on, in 1636, the Dutch took possession of the island and started to call it

Aruba, the same name the natives used to use to refer to it. The official language is Dutch, although it is very common to hear people speaking in English, Spanish and Papiamentu, the language spoken by the natives.

The capital city of Aruba is Oranjestad. It is a city surrounded by big houses painted in bright colors: pink, orange, white, yellow, green, etc. Most of these houses are characterized by their immense wooden doors and spacious balconies. Along the southwest coast of the island one can find luxurious hotels, enormous casinos, and lots of souvenir shops. The main street is full of craftsmen who offer a huge variety of merchandise like pottery, embroidery and jewellery, all of which reflect the culture and variety of Aruba.

It is important that you visit the Archaeology Museum in which there are great exhibits of the island's origin and history. Don't forget to visit the famous Old Red Dutch Mill and the highest coral bridge, a natural bridge created by nature itself. If you like extreme sports and want to have an incredible sensation of freedom, do not miss the opportunity of practicing windsurfing along the sunny, windy Aruban coast. It's another way of viewing the city (if you can keep your eyes open!) You can also dive into deep, crystal-clear waters and experience the wide variety of Caribbean sea life.

There is no getting bored in Aruba. It is a place you will never forget!

**1.- Match the words with their definitions.**

- |               |                                                          |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| a) Mill       | _____ rich, comfortable, expensive.                      |
| b) Cave       | _____ something keep as a reminder.                      |
| c) Pottery    | _____ a hollow place inside the earth. Cavern.           |
| d) Souvenir   | _____ machine used for grinding, crushing, etc.          |
| e) Luxurious  | _____ things made of clay, hardened by heat.             |
| f) Embroidery | _____ desings made of pieces of fabric with needle work. |

**2.-Sellect the correct option to fill in the blanks.**

- a) Aruba has an extension of: \_\_\_\_\_  
931 km<sup>2</sup>                      397 km<sup>2</sup>                      193km<sup>2</sup>
- b) The divi-divi is a small: \_\_\_\_\_  
boat                      tree                      flower
- c) In Aruba, the official language is: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dutch                      Papiamento                      English
- d) The highest natural bridge in Aruba is made of: \_\_\_\_\_  
pebbles                      corals                      seashells
- e) \_\_\_\_\_ offer a huge variety of merchandise.  
Watchmen                      firemen                      craftsmen

**3.- Answer the questions about the text.**

- a) Where is Aruba located? \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Who discovered the Island> When? \_\_\_\_\_
- c) What can you find along the southwest coast? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d) Which extreme sports can you practice in Aruba? \_\_\_\_\_
- e) What can you see in the Archeology Museum? \_\_\_\_\_